

• C o u n t e r p o i s e •

The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Volume XLVII

April 2006

Number 4



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon meets every 2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm at the First Lutheran Church of El Cajon. The address is 867 South Lincoln Ave. Next meeting:

April 13, 2006 7:00 pm

Table of Contents

From The President	Page 2
Convention Pre-registration	Page 2
Meeting Minutes	Page 3
From The Vice President	Page 4
Calendar of Events	Page 4
Membership Application	Page 5
Fun Page	Page 6
Joke	Page 6
Ham Spot Light	Page 7
Editor's Corner	Page 8
Things to keep in mind	Page 8
Crest Radio Museum	Page 9
Land Use and Housing Committee	Page 10
From the President continued	Page 11
The A.R.E.S Connection	Page 12
New Member at meeting	Page 12
Club Photos	Page 13

All Official written communication is to be submitted to:

A.R.C.E.C. P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022
The Counterpoise is a publication of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). It is published once monthly and contributions are accepted from officers and members of the club. We also encourage input from members of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon. Opinions expressed are solely that of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). Articles may be submitted either by e-mail or mail to the editor.

Paul Rios at:
kc6qls@cox.net or by post
1237 Victor Ave #4, El Cajon, CA 92021
The Deadline is Sunday after the General Meeting.

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon
Web Site: <http://www.wa6bgs.org>

Automatic Position Reporting System
"APRS"
Where is Tuck El Cajon?

Got the APRS up and running
Now I have to hide the Transmitter

Happy Easter

April meeting APRS By: Tuck Miller NZ6T
Next Month Skywarn 50 min. long

2006 Officers

President	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Vice-President	AI6O	Ed Felter	668-0928
Secretary	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Treasurer	KF6WXA	Susan Kochel	445-6067
Past President	KG6JCW	Mike "Stogie" Panger	263-4439

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Welcoming	AE6QW	Gordon Shackelford	561-6323
Social	KD6PRV	Anselmo Ruiz	574-0720

2006 Standing Committee

Club Attire	K6PKS	Paul Schmidt	733-2284
SANDARC Delegate	K5WFW	Len Fulbright	258-1322
Public Relations	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Counterpoise Editor	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Education	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Estate Sales	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Field Day	AI6O	Ed Felter	668-0928
Health & Welfare	KF6XY	John Cordle	697-2700
Historian	OPEN		
Net Manager	KG6TDP	Mike O	444-9090
Post Mistress	KC6TBG	Ann Rios	593-9445
Technical	W6RHV	Bob Boehme	448-4728
Swap Meet	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Bylaws	KF6XY	John Cordle	697-2700
WA6BGS Trustee	AE6CQ	Michael Martak	562-6477
WAMO	W6LKK	Erich Bennett	401-7332
Web Master(s)	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
	AI6O	Ed Felter	668-0928

Staff and Writers:

KC6QLS	Paul	Editor
AI6O	ED	Vice President
N6OPH	Mike	Meeting minutes
	Tassy	HAM Spot Light
W6LKK	Erich	WAMO Report
W5COM	Tom	Jokes
N6NKJ	Rich	The A.R.E.S Connection
WA6MHZ	Pat	Crest Radio Museum
	Bridget	Photos



Pre-Registration

2006 ARRL Southwestern Convention
At the web site www.sandarc-conv2006.org

From The President

Paul KC6QLS



First, thank you to Mick, KF6JBB and Gary K6CYS from the Western States Weak Signal Club for their presentation on EME (Moonbounce) at our March 2006 meeting. The presentation was interesting, informative and enjoyed by all. We appreciate your taking the time to speak at our club meeting.

Second, the club needs to determine where we will have our Christmas Dinner. From the poll previously taken on the Club Reflector, there seems to be a consensus that members would like to have our dinner at Hometown Buffet. I have looked into several possibilities, and we will be discussing and voting on this issue at our April meeting. Please attend.

Lastly, the club needs to determine whether we will be participating in the Crest Fire Safe Council's proposal and request for our assistance in their three part plan as more fully discussed by Kandhy Franklin at our February 2006 meeting, and as I outlined the proposal in our March 2006

Continued Page 11

This Months Silent Auction is for Perry's Café
475 N. Magnolia Ave El Cajon CA 92020 (619)
444-5724 Opening Bid \$20.00

AI6O	FELTER FINANCIAL GROUP, INC Financial and Estate Planning
	Ed Felter, President
8080 La Mesa Blvd Suite #113 La Mesa CA 91941 Phone: (619) 668-0929 Fax: (619) 668-5666 E-mail: edfelter@pacbell.net	

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

General Membership Meeting
9 March 2006



The general membership meeting of the ARCEC was called to order by club president Paul Rios, KC6QLS at 1900hrs.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: as published in the *Counterpoise* was approved with one correction. The Education report was given by Mike, N6OPH. Mike reported that he will begin the class next Tuesday at 1900hrs at 222 West Madison Ave. in El Cajon. The classes will be for two hours and the text will be the ARRL "Now You're Talking."

TREASURER'S REPORT: was read by Mike, N6OPH as Susan is absent due to illness. The report was approved as read and filed for audit.

Our new member is Steve Weed, KO4QT who lead the group in the pledge of allegiance.

PROGRAM: ED, AI6O introduced the Western States Weak Signal Group who presented the program on EME.

After the break, the meeting continued.

PRESIDENT: Rios announced the winner of the silent auction. The winner is Mike KG6TDP. The revisions of the by-laws were approved with one negative vote. Volunteers are needed to man the booth for the ARCEC club days at the Del Mar Fair. The club is committed to redoing the Mother Goose Parade. Paul also reported that the *Counterpoise* is going well and that more people are needed for the "Spot Light."

Frito was in the hospital and has had surgery. A club blood drive is scheduled for Frito on Jamacha drive March 25th from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Since Frito is a member of Kaiser, blood would need to be directly donated for his account.

VICE-PRESIDENT: Ed, AI6O has stated that field day sign ups are now open. A set up crew is necessary for Friday set up for field day.

SANDARC REPORT: was given by Len K5FWF. He reported that SANDARC will be opening an account to help defray the possible expenses for hiring council. Also, that the budget still has not been completed. It appears that the

City of San Diego Land Use and Housing committee will be holding their meeting on 29 March at which time they may be discussing the changes to the amateur radio antenna ordinance. The agenda has not yet been published.

HEALTH & WELFARE REPORT: was given by John, KF6XY. He reported on the illness regarding Frito and subsequent plans for the blood drive.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: was given by Ann, KC6TBG. There are 174 paid members, 43 members were present with 2 visitors and one new member.

NEW BUSINESS: was offered by Mike, N6IEF. He requested help with the convention radio station.

There being no further business before the general membership the meeting was adjourned at 2101 hrs.

Respectfully Submitted

Michael Paul Maston, N6OPH
Secretary
Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon



Gary K6CYS and Mick KF6JBB our March Speakers talking about EME.

Great Job guys. I think you got a lot of our members interested in it.

From The Vice President AI6O ED



Did you read recently where the little 5 year old son of Beth, KE5AJ0 had been listening to the code practice of Beth and her husband who is also a ham? The parents were using a keyer practicing sending CQ's and signing their call signs. The little fellow sat there intently listening. Presently, the parents took a break and left the room only to be called back by the sounds of Morse Code sending out CQ CQ CQ. They looked in and saw the five year old on the keyer sending the CQ's.

Whether or not the above is actually true, Morse Code is something that we all can pick up. Recently it has been fun to sit in on a couple of Morse Code practice sessions with a good number of stations in east county on CW. We have been meeting on 50.090 MHz. and now, because of increasing numbers of checkins, the frequency range is stretching down to 50.080 MHz. Most of us know code but need to hone our skills. I can bang out about 20 wpm sending, but am way down on copying skill. So I need practice. Courtesy says keep the speed down. Improving receiving skills says speed it up. Somewhere in there is a balance and improvement.

Really, it isn't important to me whether or not the FCC drops the code requirement in the future. That is a debate for another place and time. However, as a communicator, I like the idea of having one more method of communication should it ever be needed. I would encourage everyone to get out that "bug", keyer, or if you are like me, the old Navy J-38 hand key. Limber up the fingers, sharpen your pencil and join the effort to develop your CW skills. It is great fun, good fellowship, and valuable experience.

See you at the next club meeting which will feature APRS with Tuck, NZ6T.

Straight ahead!

Ed Felter, AI6O



WA6BGS Nets

Mike Oberbauer:	KG6TDP	Net Manger
Mike Oberbauer:	KG6TDP	Net Controller
Frito	N6WKB	Wide Open Nets

WAMO NETS:

Wednesday and Saturday Nights
8:00 pm local time 7:30 "Checkins"

Tuesday Night Rag Chew net:
8:00 pm

Nets held on club repeaters

WA6BGS Repeaters

RX 146.475 (147.420) 107.2 PL

RX 224.480 – 107.2 PL

RX 445.900 – 107.2 PL

Don't miss it. All members welcome.



WAMO means Worked All Members Only. The purpose of WAMO is to encourage people to people communication between club members and to publicize the name of the club among fellow amateurs.

Club Attire

***** Shirts on hand. Call for Sizes *****

Get your jackets, hats and t-shirts.

Show off your club colors and let all know that the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon is strong and growing.

Contact: K6PKS Paul Schmidt (619) 733-2284


Calendar of Events April 2006

April	1:	April Fools Day
April	1:	Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am
April	1:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm
April	4:	Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
April	8:	ARES Meeting, 8:00 am
April	13:	General Meeting, 7:00 pm
April	14:	Good Friday
April	15:	Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am
April	15:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm
April	16:	Easter Sunday
April	19:	SANDARC Meeting 7:00 pm

The Counterpoise is also online in FULL COLOR. Check it out and the club's website at: www.wa6bgs.org

Get your advanced copy by e-mail. I will send it out in .PDF format the night it goes to print. E-mail me and let me know that you would like a copy. Size of file maybe up to 1.5 mb at times.

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5375 Kearny Villa Road
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(858) 560-4900 or 1-800-854-6046

Change of Address

Moving?

Do not miss an issue of the Counterpoise. Fill out the Change of address form below.

Call _____ WAMO# _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
New Address:
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send to Membership Chairperson:
A.R.C.E.C./ P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

ARCEC Membership Application

1. Amateur Call Sign	2. Class of License
3. First Name	4. Last Name
5. Street Address	6. City, State, Zip+4
7. Home Phone	8. Work Phone
May we list: Y N	
9. DOB	10. e-mail
11. ARRL Member Yes no	12. ARES Member Yes No
13. RACES Member Yes No	14. Sponsored by: or Family Member

Return this form with check made payable to the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon or ARCEC for new or renewal membership. Annual Dues \$18.00 for Individual, \$30.00 for family. New members add \$5.00 per member. Include your call on Check. Mail to
Membership Chairperson
A.R.C.E.C, P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

New () or Renewal ()	WAMO Number
Certificate Issued	Dues from _____ To _____
Paid Cash ()	Check No.
Check ()	Date Paid:

Computer Roster Available

Want the roster sent to you via e-mail? Send an e-mail to Ann Rios KC6TBG, and she will send you the database back as an attachment. She uses Excel, but may be able to convert to various formats if asked. Send your request to 619-593-9445 or KC6TBG@cox.net

FUN PAGE

Birthdays April

April	1	KD6QB	Bill	Callier
April	2	KE6PMS	Louis	Dunn
April	3	KF6QXO	Irene	Lewis Haag
April	5	K6DS	Harley	Gabrielson
April	10	NY6J	Bob	Helt
April	15	KE7LM	Galen	Kelm
April	16	KG6YKJ	Thomas	Christian
April	20	WA6VEY	Bob	Dalzell
April	23	WA6BJM	Fred	Moffett
April	24	KG6ZJF	George	Snell
April	29	WB6TPJ	Joe	Yelkin

Did I miss your Birthday or is yours next month?
Your Birthday may not be on the Roster

E-mail me: KC6QLS@cox.net

Jokes " Accurate Tool Definitions "

8. Whitworth Sockets: Once used for working on older British cars and motorcycles, they are now used mainly for impersonating that 9/16 or 1/2-inch socket you've been searching for the last 15 minutes.

9. Hydraulic Floor Jack: Used for lowering an automobile to the ground after you have installed your new disk brake pads, trapping the jack handle firmly under the bumper.

10. Eight-Foot Long Douglas Fir 4x4: Used to attempt to lever an automobile upward off a hydraulic jack handle.

11. Tweezers: A tool for removing splinters of wood, especially Douglas fir.

12. Telephone: A tool for calling your neighbor to see if he has another hydraulic floor jack.

13. Snap-On Gasket Scraper: Theoretically useful as a sandwich tool for spreading mayonnaise; however, used mainly for removing dog feces from your boots.

14. EZ-Out Bolt and Stud Extractor: A tool that snaps off in bolt holes and is ten times harder than any known drill bit.

Continued Page 8

Word Search "APRS"

N Q D K D F S N I T E L L U B
A D I G I P E A T E R S K W G
V O R W S E V O R H E W Z S E
I F E O P Z I W A H E L E N W
G R C K L O K H F G W K Y O K
A E T E A G W K F E U L C I Z
T Q I L Y J G S I W L I K T O
I U O G Z W E S C A O O W A P
O E N Q U G P S C Q C S E T O
N N W C A T J I O K A P R S S
Z C E S H R T G M P T V A Y I
E Y S I U A C E P O I S D S T
G E Q F M C E L U K O K I T I
M A P O S K O I T S N Z O E O
O Z T Z V I Z B E Z S E G M N
W U G L G N I O R Q I L Q L S
A W Z K L G F M W T E K C A P

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> APRS | <input type="checkbox"/> MESSAGES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AUTOMATICALLY | <input type="checkbox"/> MOBILE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BULLETINS | <input type="checkbox"/> NAVIGATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMPUTER | <input type="checkbox"/> PACKET |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIGIPEATERS | <input type="checkbox"/> POSITIONS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIRECTION | <input type="checkbox"/> RADIO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISPLAY | <input type="checkbox"/> STATIONS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FREQUENCY | <input type="checkbox"/> LOCATIONS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GPS | <input type="checkbox"/> SYSTEM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MAP | <input type="checkbox"/> TRACKING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BONUS WORD: TRAFFIC | |

Last Months Word Search

C O M M U N I C A T I O N S F
W L O P H W Y K T I Q U Y G W
Q F O R Q A T F Z F Q S O I
H I N O G V R C E M E L I J R
L W B P B E A M N U W C Z E H
Z Y O A G L N J U L Q J T L H
S K U G W E S W A K H U G W I
E L N A Z N C F T B P V Y H G
C D E T F G E H I M R W B F A
N U Y O O H Y C N I K Y U I J
E U H N I S E D U T I G N O L
J U L W T K R E F L E C T F I
Q T K F A Q F H L W Z G W L T
R A W S T N E N O P M O C K E
F L A N O I T C E R I D Q L S
F H Q S R E C N E U Q E S H Q



There are few women who stand out amongst the overwhelming male population of the El Cajon Amateur Radio Club with the respect of her peers. Yet, Ann Rios, KC6TBG, WAMO # 949 is just that type of individual.

Born and raised in El Cajon, Ann was introduced to Amateur Radio with her husband, Paul, at the (then) Del Mar Fair when they met Nick Callas N6DBJ. With his encouragement, she earned her license in 1990 and has since then progressed from Novice to Tech, Tech Plus, General and recently upgraded to Extra. She is active in the El Cajon Club as Membership Chair and is Speaker and Tech Forum Sessions Chair for the 2006 ARRL Southwestern Division San Diego Convention. She was also involved with the Mother Goose Float.

Ann has been married for 21 years in June and has three daughters. She has been a Girl Scout leader for nine years and has found Amateur Radio useful for communication during scout outings. She has been a legal assistant in El Cajon for 17 years. Ann can be heard on 2 meters and on the WAMO nets.

She participated in Field Day 2005 and hopes on joining the fun again this summer. Ann enjoyed the 2005 Riverside Convention, and was impressed by the speakers and by the

many aspects of Amateur Radio. She says, "There is something for everyone in Amateur Radio." Although there is a wide range of interests when it comes to Amateur Radio, she believes, "By working together, Hams can accomplish many things for the community." Indeed they can.

No longer just a voice on the radio, the spotlight shines on KC6TBG.

73!

By Tassy Rios, Staff Writer

MAZE



**The Editor's
Corner
KC6QLS Paul**



Editor's Corner:

We have one more Chicken Noodle Soup for the Ham Radio Operator's Soul left. Any other writers out there who would like to submit a story or two? Please send them to kc6qls@cox.net.

I will be selling convention tickets at our April Meeting for the convenience of club members who would like to purchase them at the meeting. Check out the Convention website at www.sandarc-conv2006.org/ to see the latest scoop on speakers at the convention!

For those who may wish to stay at the Marriott, please be sure and tell the Marriott you are attending the convention and specifically mention when booking a room for Ham Show 06 use ASDASDA for the Group Code. Room Rate is \$119.00 a night for up to 4 persons per room.

Take care 73,
Paul Rios Editor

Continued from 6

15. Two-Ton Hydraulic Engine Hoist: A handy tool for testing the tensile strength of bolts and fuel lines you forgot to disconnect.

16. Craftsman 1/2 X 16-Inch Screwdriver: A large motor mount prying tool that inexplicably has an accurately machined screwdriver tip on the end without the handle.

17. Aviation Metal Snips: See hacksaw.

18. Trouble Light: The home builder's own tanning booth. Sometimes called drop light, it is a good source of vitamin D (the "sunshine vitamin"), which is not otherwise found under cars at night. Health benefits aside, its main purpose is to consume 40-watt light bulbs at about the same rate that 105-mm howitzer shells might be used during, say, the first few hours of the Battle of the Bulge. More often dark than light, its name is somewhat misleading.

W5COM More Next Month W5COM Tom

Volunteers Needed

Crest Fire Safe Council
Field Day
San Diego Fair
Fund Raiser Sale "Rummage"
Mother Goose Parade
Radio Clause

Please Sign up at the next meeting

Prize Table Needs Help

Thank you for your contributions to the Prize Table! We still need your Support and Help or it may just end up a thing of the past. To Help, contact WA6PPG Carl Ferree at 328-2694 e-mail at cferree@IEEE.ORG

Things to keep in mind

Get on the El Cajon ARC Reflector

To sign up visit:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/elcajonarc/>

You will get the latest news about The Club and things going on in the Ham world.

Quote of the Month

"The cautious seldom err."

- Confucius, *Ibid.* 4:23

SANTEE DRIVE-IN SWAP MEET

10990 Woodside Ave., North
FOR INFORMATION, CALL 449-SWAP
Ham Radio, Computers, Electronics
ACRES & ACRES OF BARGAINS
1st & 3rd Saturday of the Month
GATES OPEN 6:30 AM

Crest Radio Museum

Pat Bunsold, WA6MHZ



Steve NF6V and my self attended the 95th Birthday party March 16th for Leo Meyerson W0GFQ, founder of World Radio Labs (Detailed last month in Counterpoise). It was held in a park in Palm Desert (near Palm Springs), not too far away. Also in attendance was Southwestern Division Director Dick Norton N6AA and Movie producer Dave Bell W6AQ. Everyone had a wonderful time and the chow was great! It was a real pleasure meeting Leo, who is in wonder health and spirits! He was so honored to see this large crowd of hams who love him so much for his lifetime of service to Amateur Radio.

73! WA6MHZ



Crest photos by: Steve NF6V



Ad from the Past

Land Use Housing Committee vs. Legislative Oversight Committee

Mike Maston and I attended and spoke at the Land Use and Housing Committee Meeting today. It turned out to be good that we attended and spoke because 2 of my neighbors attended and spoke against the matter. They came equipped with 2 blowup 18" x 24" beautiful pictures [I thought so] of my tower and an "Antenna Be Gone" sign. My neighbors did concede at council that the antenna was useful for public service and emergency work and that my permit was legal. They do not care how many lives it saved in Katrina. They just do not like the way it looks and want it to be gone.

Mike, as Chairman of SANDARC, quite eloquently represented the interests of the more than 3,500 ham residents of the City and all of us owe a vote of thanks to Mike for his efforts. I spoke on behalf of ARES and the Emergency Services we provide to the City.

After politely listening to both sides, LU&H adopted the Mayor's recommendation not to include the matter in the Fiscal 2006 -2007 operational budget for Planning, Building and Development. This does not mean that it is dead, but just postponed for about 2 years. Time being a great healer, it may just go away.

After the meeting Mike and I buttonholed Amanda Lee, the senior planner, who works under Kelley Broughton and who had been specifically tasked with coming up with new ordinances. We specifically asked where the new directive to leave ham radio antennas alone came from. She said it came directly from the Mayor's offices and confirmed that "someone" [I believe it was Tuck Miller] got the Mayor to pay attention to the issue and that the Mayor came to the conclusion that the City did not need to change all antenna ordinances just because a couple of La Jolla Fat Cats wanted an antenna removed from their street.

We got lucky. We got caught with our pants down. We were not prepared for these attacks on Ham Radio and almost lost our rights. We, who preach emergency preparedness, were not prepared.

Although we seem to have dodged this bullet for the time being, SANDARC is still going forward with the establishment of a Legislative Oversight Fund so that there will be money available to hire lawyers the next time these types of issues arise.. AND there definitely will be a next time...

This time we did not have funds in hand to hire lawyers so we had the Poway Massacre and the San Diego Antenna Ordinance Debacle. We ran around after the fact trying to plug a hole in the dike after the dike breached. Fortunately for us, a mountain, called Katrina and Tuck's trolley, fell on the gap in San Diego and plugged the leak. We still have Poway to deal with.

We will not be so lucky the next time. Unfortunately these types of attacks on Ham Radio happen every couple of years here in San Diego County. You never know who among us will be the next victim of nasty neighbors or overzealous bureaucrats. Based on discussions with attorneys, we project that the fund will need about \$11,000 to mount a proper defense. We figure there are about 2,000 active hams in the County. At even \$5 a piece we would easily make our goals.

From Mike and my discussions with the City Planners, the fact that there will now be fund available to fight them will in itself be a major deterrent to them even trying this type of punitive nonsense again.

So we really need to raise the funds so that we can be ready for the next attack

Howard S. White Ph.D. P. Eng., VE3GFW/K6 ex-AE6SM KY6LA

Website: www.ky6la.com

"No Good Deed Goes Unpunished"

"Ham Antennas Save Lives - Katrina, 2003 San Diego Fires, 911"

Pubilicity Volunteers Needed

There are several volunteer opportunities available for ARCEC members

1. San Diego Fair "Radio Booth": ARCEC normally has the first weekend of the month, and there will be two shifts on Saturday and Sunday. Please sign up at the April Meeting or call or email your info to me. You will be given a free pass to the fair for the day you volunteer. You can also volunteer to work any other days and shifts as SANDARC needs to fill the booth for the entire time of the fair. If we do not have enough volunteers, we may lose our booth and location at the fair, so please volunteer to help at the booth and share what Amateur Radio is all about.
2. Field Day is just around the corner. We have a number of volunteers, but could always use more help. Please sign up at the April Meeting or contact Ed AI6O to volunteer.
3. Crest Fire Safe Council: Again, please review this issue in the March Counterpoise and come to our April Meeting ready to sign up to volunteer and vote on this issue.
4. Mother Goose Parade: I'm excited about this years parade and am chairing this event. We have six on the committee so far, and I'd like some more volunteers. We had a great time last year planning, building, and riding on the float. Please sign up at the April Meeting and join in the fun.
5. Radio Clause: This is a new event this year. The intent of the program is to let the kids at our local hospitals talk to Santa by Ham Radio "at the North Pole or IN Flight to the Hospital". If we can work out that, than perhaps Santa can than deliver the toy or item. Volunteers are needed for the committee who will then plan the event more fully, but we would need volunteers for Santa, Radio Elf, set-up the hospital, set-up toys and/or contact and hook up to work with another existing toy drive group. (A toy drive is not the main goal here, but perhaps could be worked in as developed by the committee). Please sign up for this worthy cause at the April Meeting.

Pubilicity Continued From the President Cont.

6. Rummage Sale: Another new event this year designed to raise money for our club. Depending on the number of participants and amount of money raised, we may be able to use some of this money to offset the cost of our Christmas Dinner. The details would be worked out by the committee, but the intent would be that those who participate with donations and/or with time organizing, setting up, selling and/or cleaning up would eligible for a % of the proceeds to be divided amount the volunteers who participate and applied to their Christmas Dinner. The remainder of the proceeds would go into the general account toward our newsletter printing costs. Please note that all items donated that do not sell must be picked up and disposed of by the donator. The club cannot afford to pay for the disposal of donated items not sold as that would, obviously, cut into club profits. This event has a lot of potential to raise a lot of funds for our club. This would be an excellent event for either July or August and so we must start planning now. Please sign up at the April Meeting or call or email me with your info.

Paul KC6QLS

Continued from page 3

Counterpoise. I would ask members to review the March 2006 Counterpoise (it is also available online) regarding this proposal and come to our April meeting prepared to discuss and vote on whether we as a club will pursue this volunteer opportunity. We had a volunteer sign up sheet at our March Meeting, and so far we have three volunteers (Pat WA6MHZ, Ann KC6TBG and myself). Obviously, in order for the club to pursue this, we will need more volunteers for the committee and a list of volunteers who could be called upon in the time of need. Therefore, I would again ask that ARCEC members who wish to volunteer and participate in this endeavor, in any capacity, contact me either by phone or email as soon as possible so that we can obtain a count of volunteers. At the April Meeting, we will discuss this matter further and take a vote. Please attend.

Paul KC6QLS
President ARCEC

The A.R.E.S Connection

From Rich, N6NKJ



Hello to everyone,

By the time this issue of the Counterpoise comes out, the Special Olympics for March will have come and gone. I want to thank all of the Radio operators who were willing to give up their time to help out with this very worthwhile group; in fact some of these hero's, worked both days THANK YOU.

Once again, the same reliable group of people volunteered their services to help out a group of people who needed us.

There are over 6000 amateur radio operators in San Diego County and yet it is the same group of us who are willing to help with whatever it is that needs to be done. WHERE ARE THE OTHER 5000+ OPERATORS?

Here are some upcoming events that we need people to help with;

April 29, from 9am to noon I love a clean San Diego, contact Tuck, NZ6T at nz6t@arri.org

May 31, All day SURF Pacific Crest Trail 50 mile run,

Contact Dave, KC6YSO at kc6yso@amsat.org

June 1st and 2nd, Special Olympics San Diego State University, contact

Eric, N6SUB at

n6sub@wolpertinger1@msn.com

You can also contact me, Rich, N6NKJ, for the Special Olympics at

rbeisigl@csst.net , this is for the June games.

October 13-15, Miramar Air Show, there will be more information later.

So, you can see there are a lot of chances to help out during the coming year, and I do hope to see some new faces at some or all of these events.

Until next month, stay safe, be happy and enjoy life.

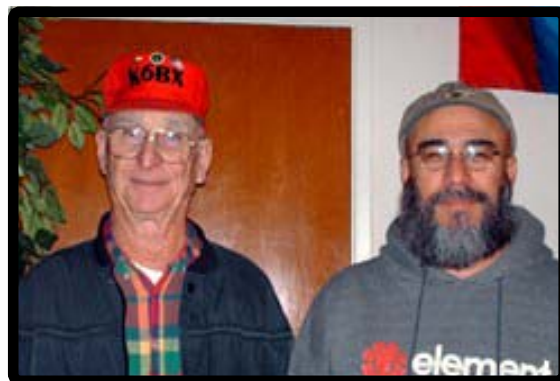
And please keep all of our service men and women in your prayers.

Rich, N6NKJ

Welcome New Member



KO4QT Steve Weed WAMO# 1689



Visitors

John Roessler, K6BX & Joe Roessler N7WLR

Thank you to all members who have renewed. Please check the mailing label on your Counterpoise. If your membership has expired, please take a moment to complete and return the Renewal Application located within this Counterpoise.

Returning Members: Welcome back Johnny Hart N6DVJ, WAMO # 590, a previous Membership Chair of the ARCEC, and Carol Hart KF6FBL, WAMO 1350, a previous Treasurer of the ARCEC. We look forward to hearing you on our WAMO Nets.

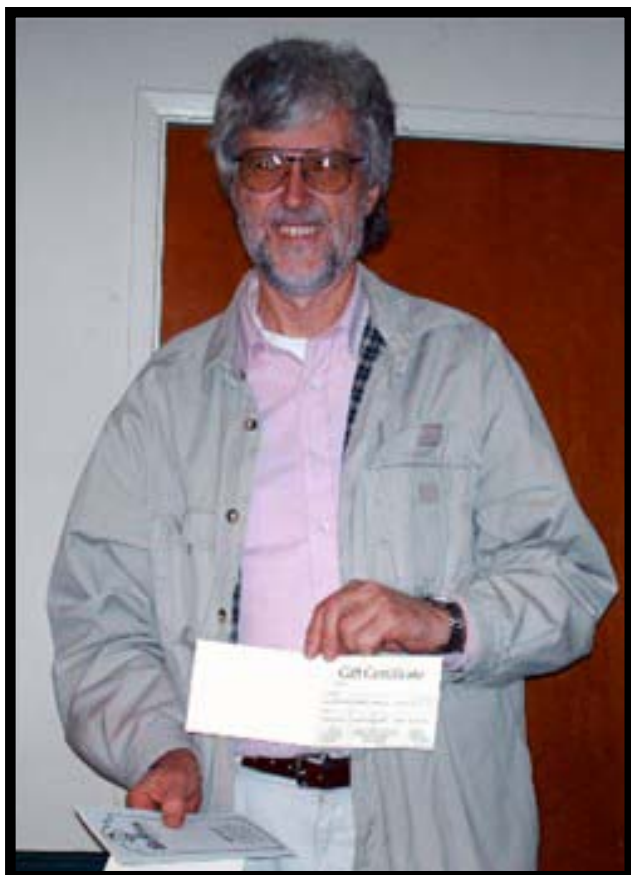
73

Ann, KC6TBG

Hams in Photos



Johnny Hart N6DVJ



Mike KC6TDP Winner of the Silent Auction

More Photos



Prize Table WOW a lot of stuff!!!!



EME Speakers Mick and Gary



Frito's Blood Drive. Bus was always Full.

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon
P.O. Box 50
El Cajon, CA 92022



4/2006

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Is your membership ready to expire?

Take a look on your mailing label. Is the expiration date in 2005? Does it say EXPIRED? That means it's time to mail in your yearly dues. Please take time to fill out the membership application in this newsletter, and mail it in, or bring it to the next meeting.



Amateur Radio ... A National Resource